



NESSUS ESSENTIALS INSTALLATION GUIDE

Student Laboratory Manual

Document Information

Prepared For	Students
Course	Cyber Security Laboratory
Software	Nessus Essentials
Version	10.12.1
Operating System	Windows 10/11 (64-bit)
Academic Year	2026/2027

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1. Downloading Nessus Essentials

Step 1: Access the Tenable Downloads Page

Open a web browser and navigate to the official **Tenable Downloads** page. Locate the **Nessus Essentials** section to begin the download process.

Official Download page link:

<https://www.tenable.com/downloads/nessus?loginAttempted=true>

Search results for 'Tenable' (About 1,790 results):

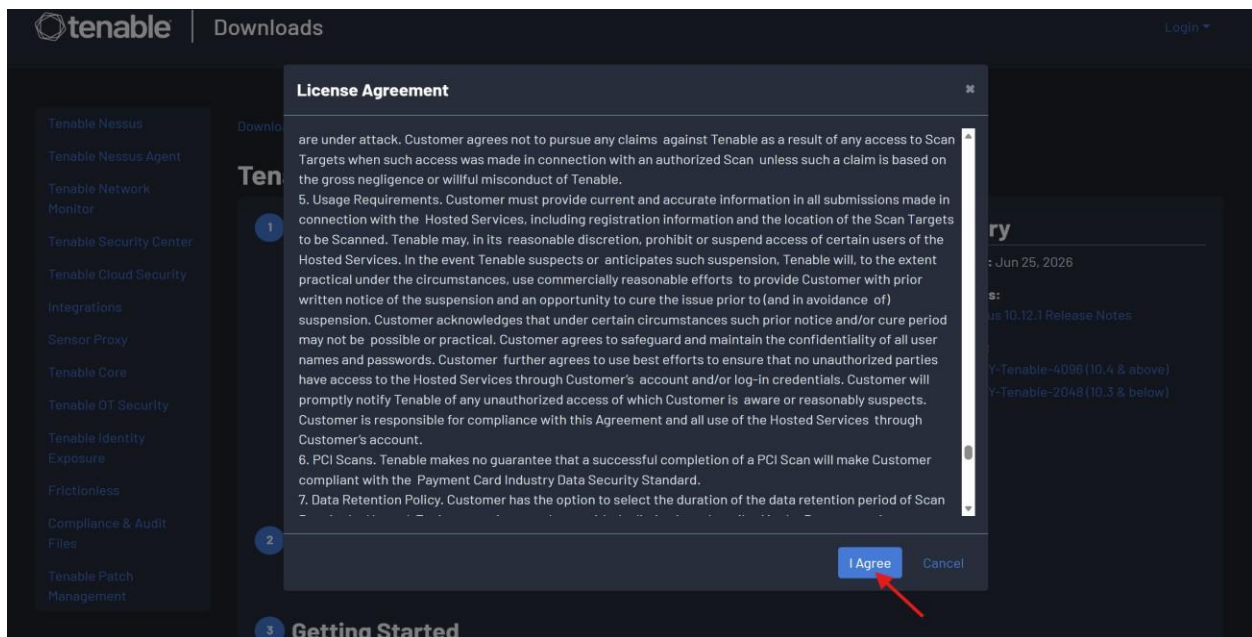
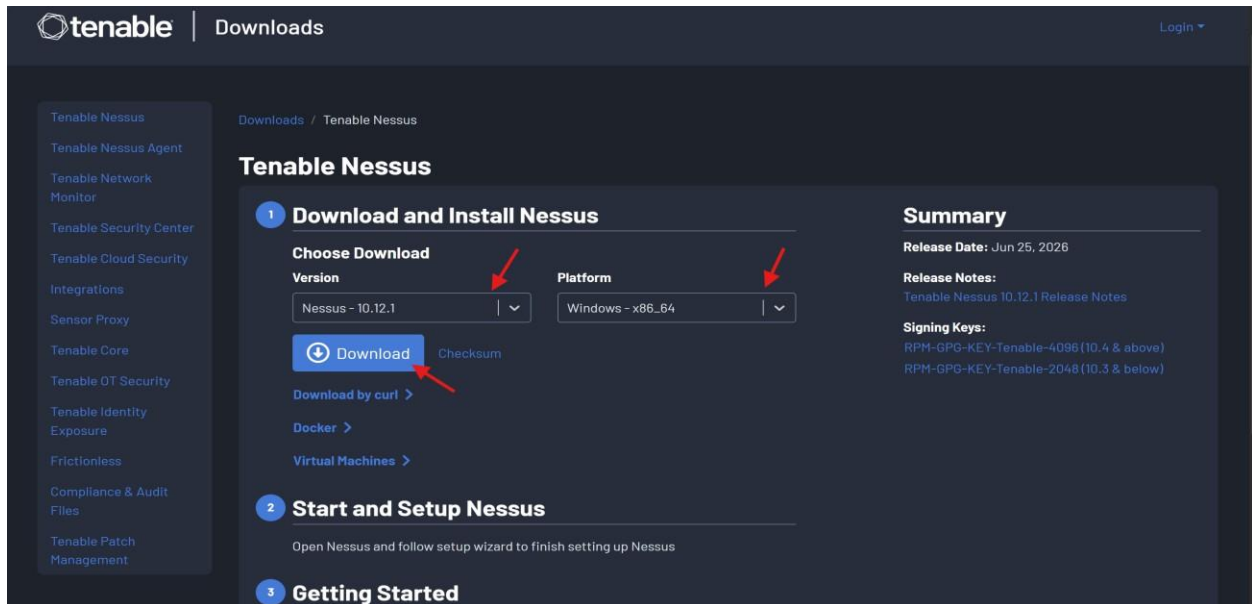
- Tenable**
<https://www.tenable.com>
Download Tenable Nessus
Jun 24, 2026 · Open Nessus and follow setup wizard to finish setting up Nessus. Check out our documentation for Nessus. © 2026 ...
 - Get Activation Code**
Get your activation code and download Nessus, the industry-leading vulnerability ...
 - Documentation**
Tenable Core Hardened operating environment for running Security Center, ...
 - Tenable Security Center**
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Deep dive into tenable nessus download

- Q Nessus download **windows 10**
- Q Nessus **installer** download
- Q Tenable Nessus **essentials** download
- Q Nessus **free version** download
- Q Nessus download
- Q Tenable Nessus **login**
- Q Nessus
- Q Tenable Nessus **install**

Step 2: Download the Windows Installer

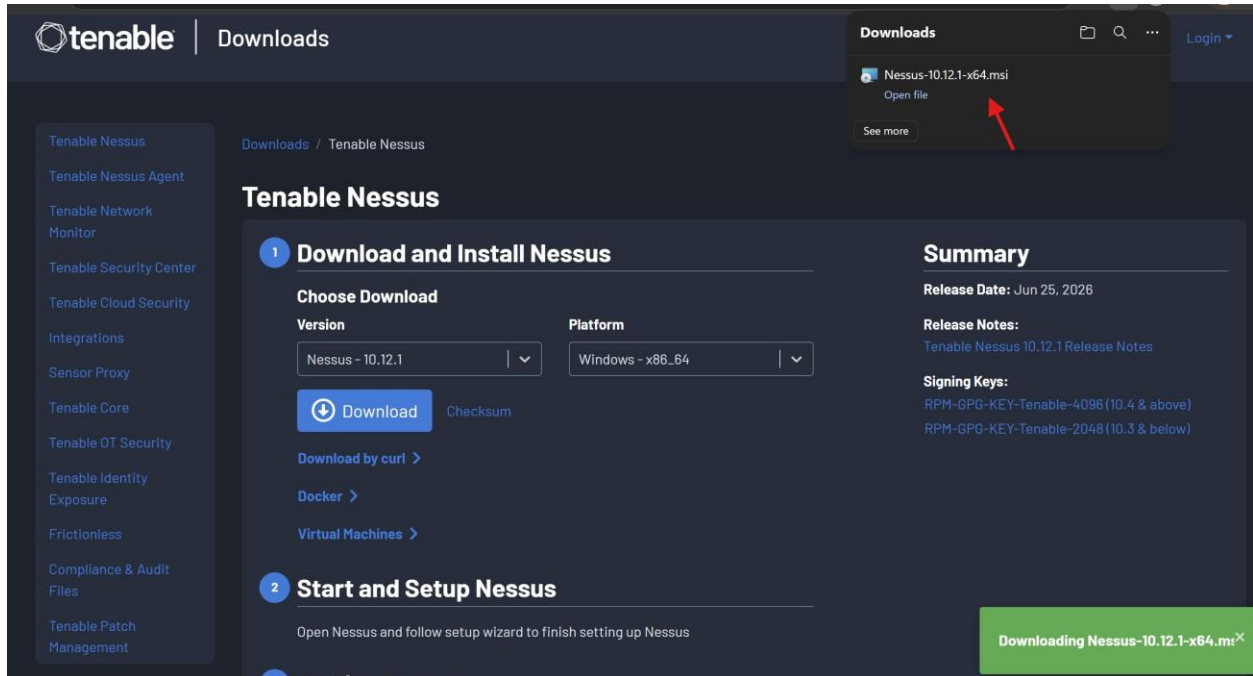
Select **Windows (64-bit)** as the operating system and click **Download**. Save the installation package to a preferred location, such as the **Downloads** folder and license agreement will appear and select, I agree.



2. Installing Nessus Essentials

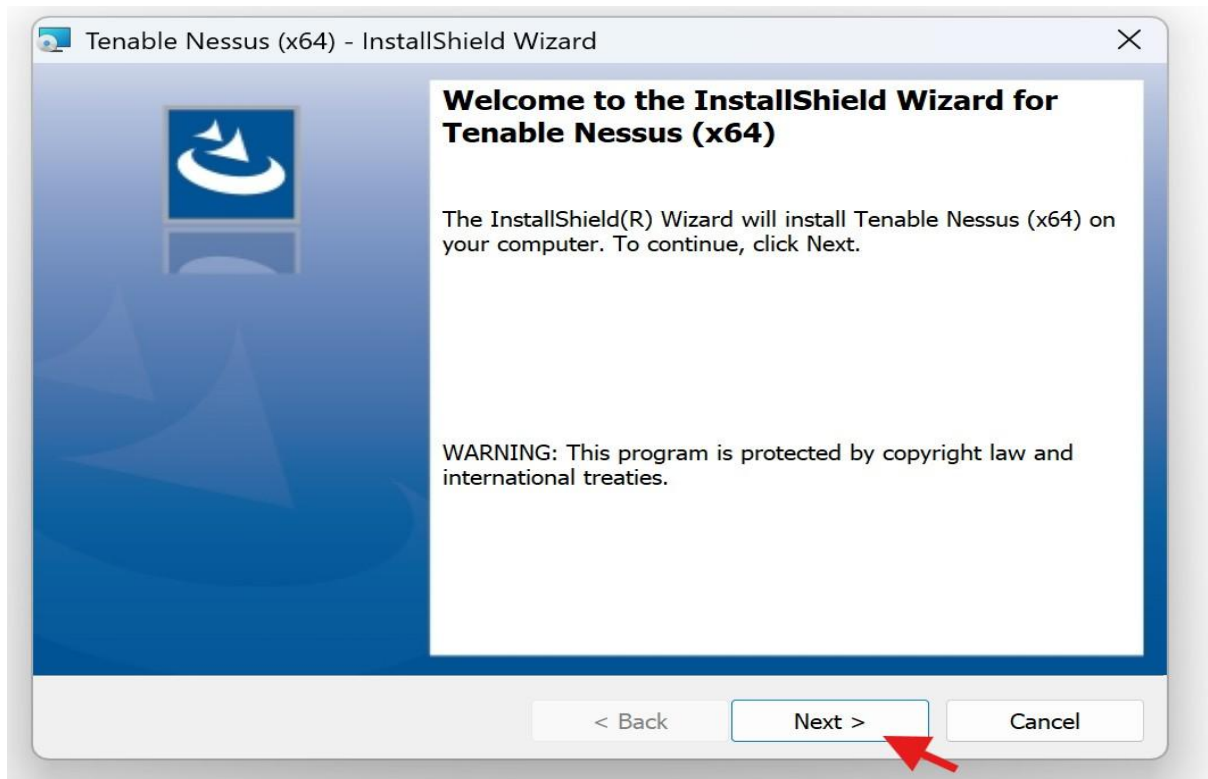
Step 3: Launch the Installer

Locate the downloaded installation package and double-click the .msi file to launch the Nessus Setup Wizard. If prompted by **User Account Control (UAC)**, click **Yes** to continue.



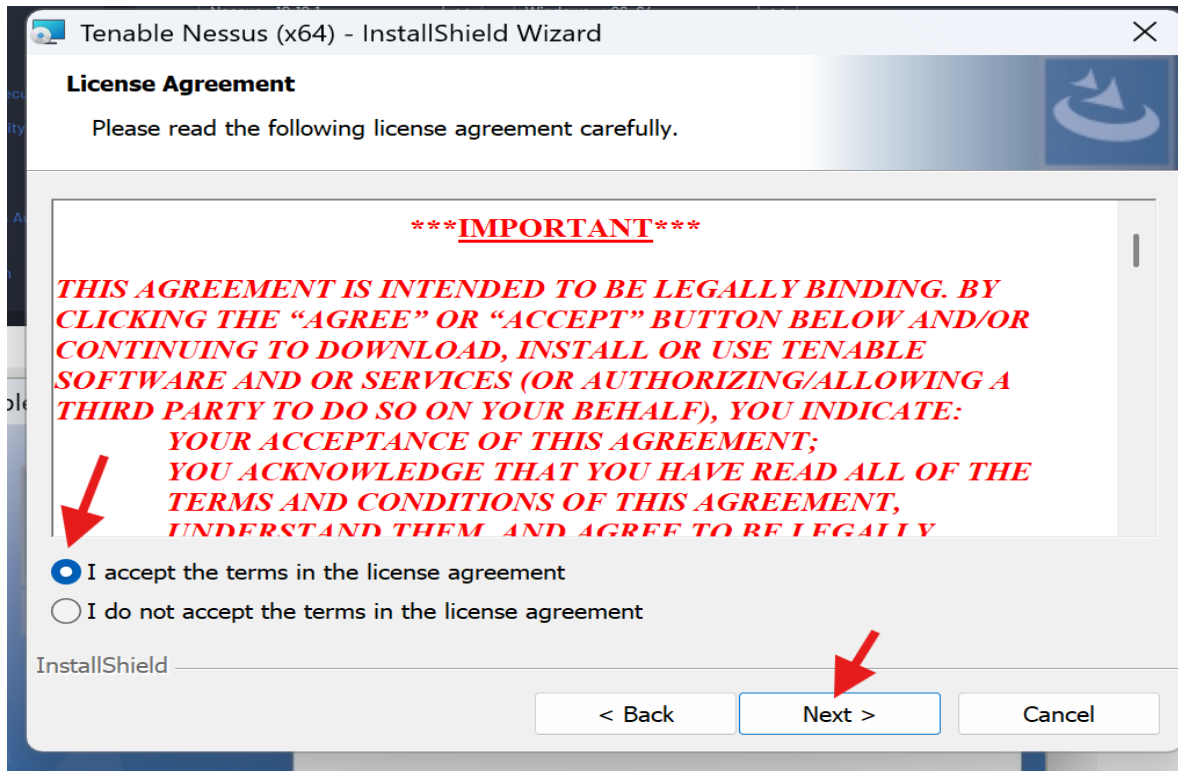
Step 4: Welcome to the Nessus Setup Wizard

The Nessus Setup Wizard displays a welcome screen. Click **Next** to continue with the installation.



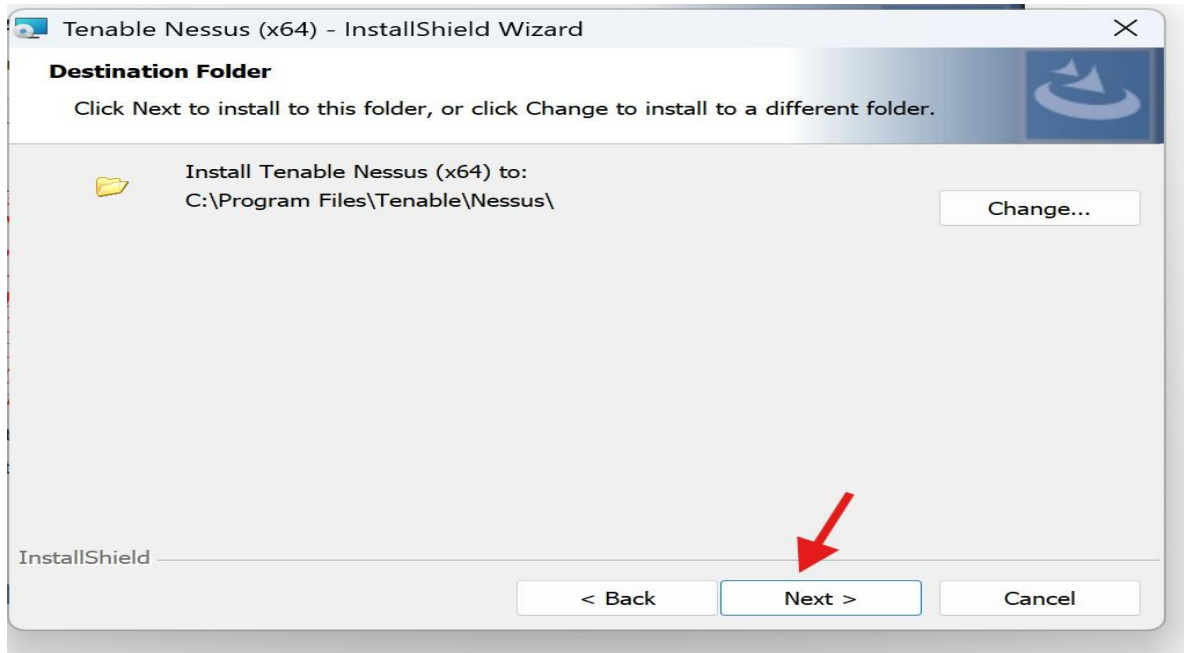
Step 5: Accept the License Agreement

Read the license agreement and accept the terms by selecting **I accept the terms of the License Agreement**. Click **Next** to proceed.



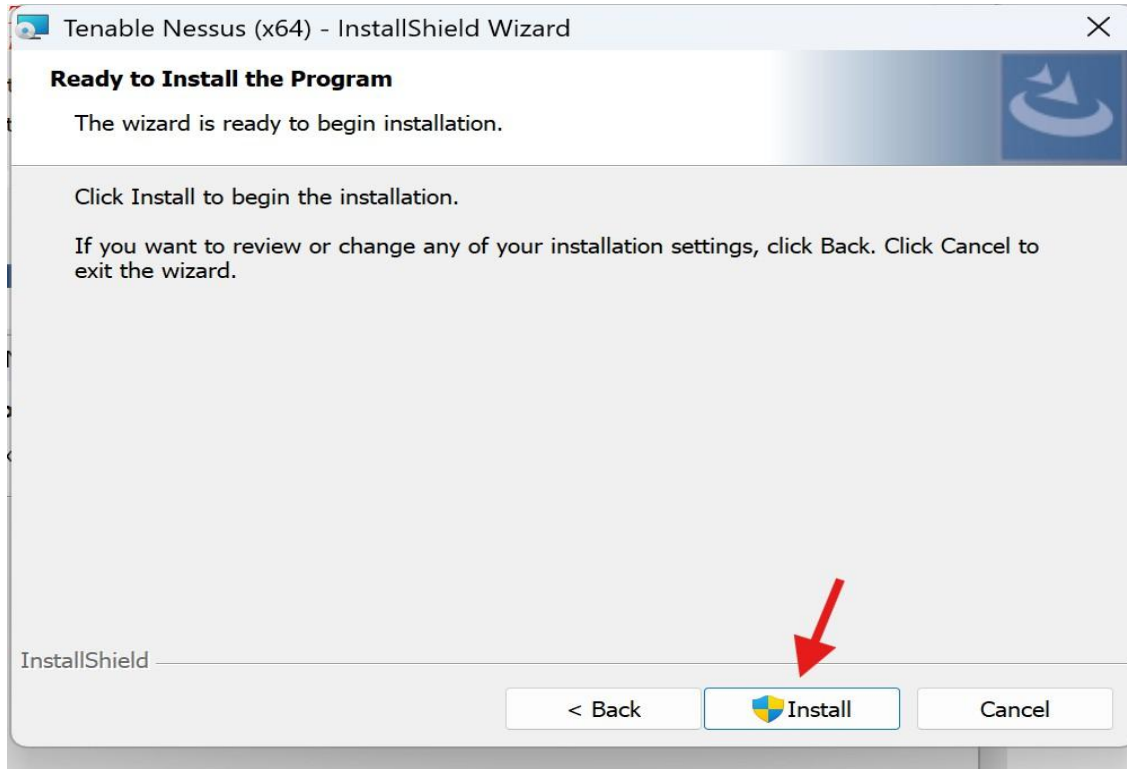
Step 6: Select the Installation Location

Choose the destination folder where Nessus will be installed. It is recommended to keep the default installation path. Click **Next**.



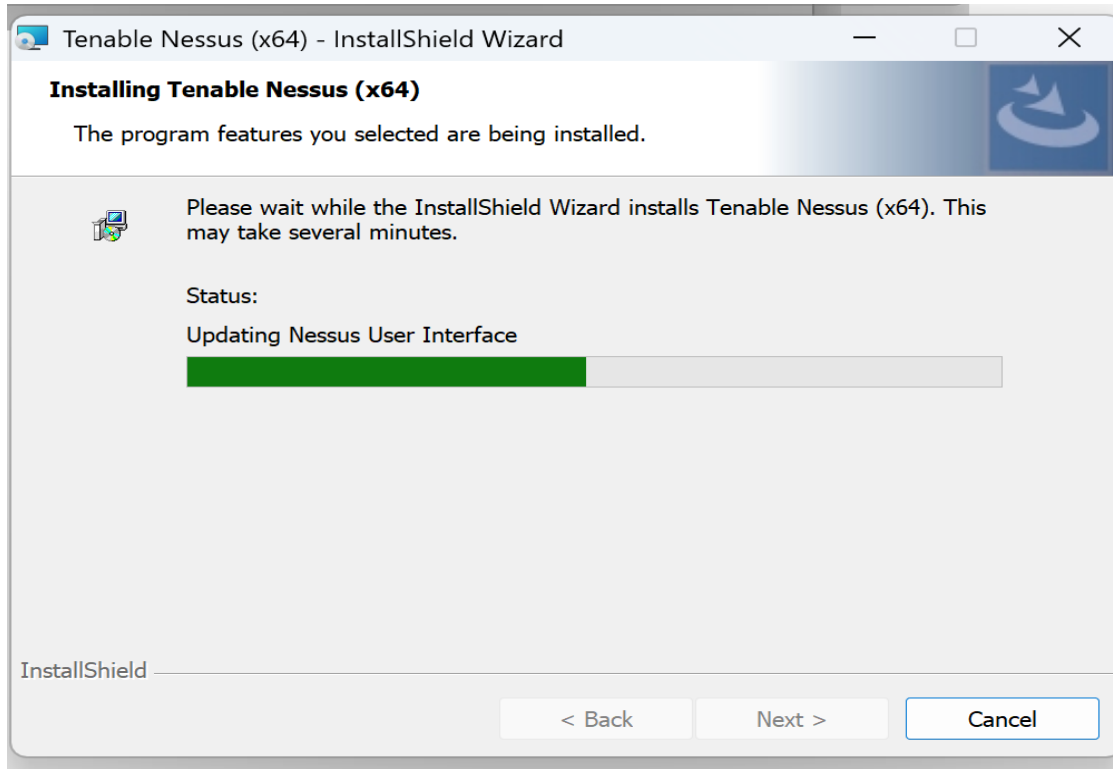
Step 7: Begin the Installation

Review the installation settings and click **Install** to begin copying the required program files.



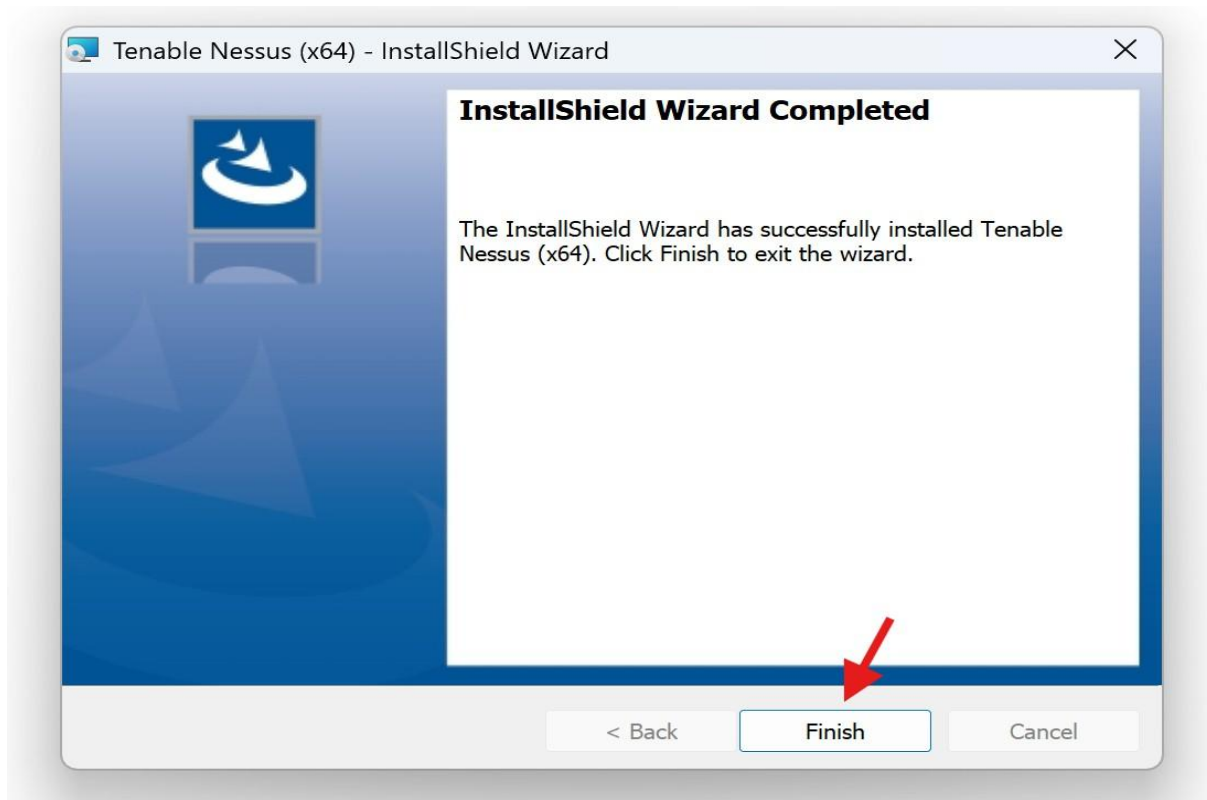
Step 8: Installing Nessus

The installer copies and configures the required files. Wait until the installation process is completed.



Step 9: Complete the Installation

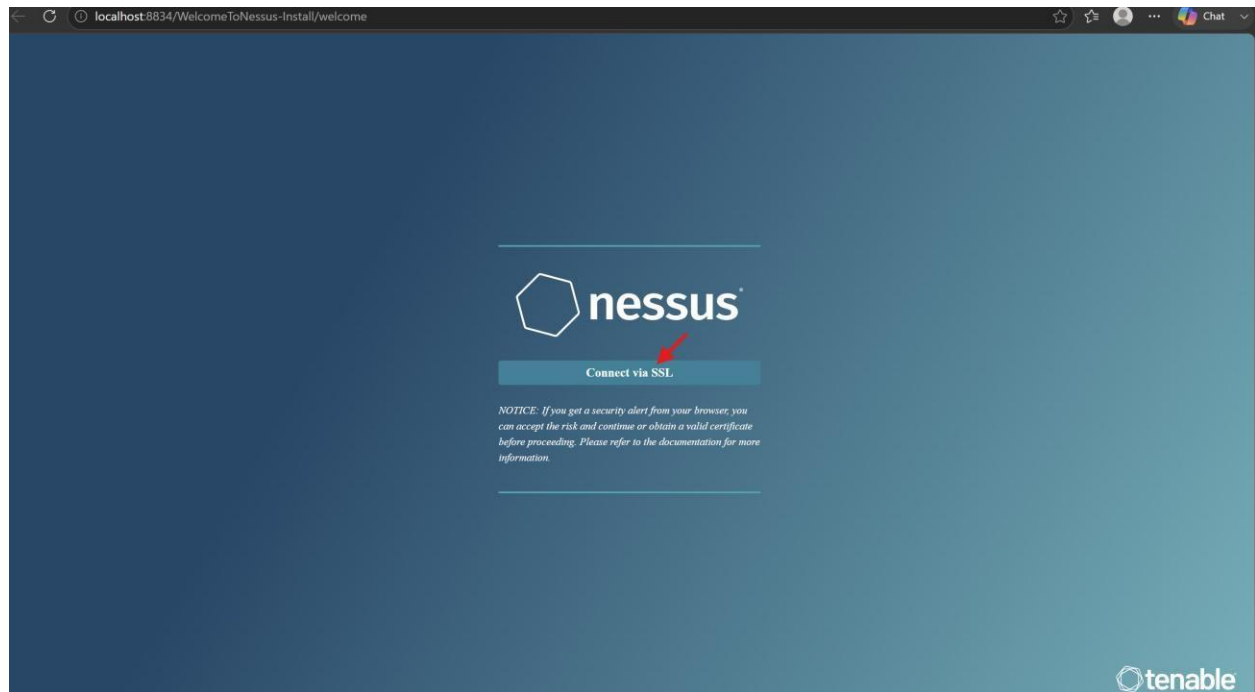
After the installation finishes successfully, click **Finish**. The Nessus service starts automatically, and the default web browser opens.



3. Configuring Nessus Essentials

Step 10: Connect via SSL

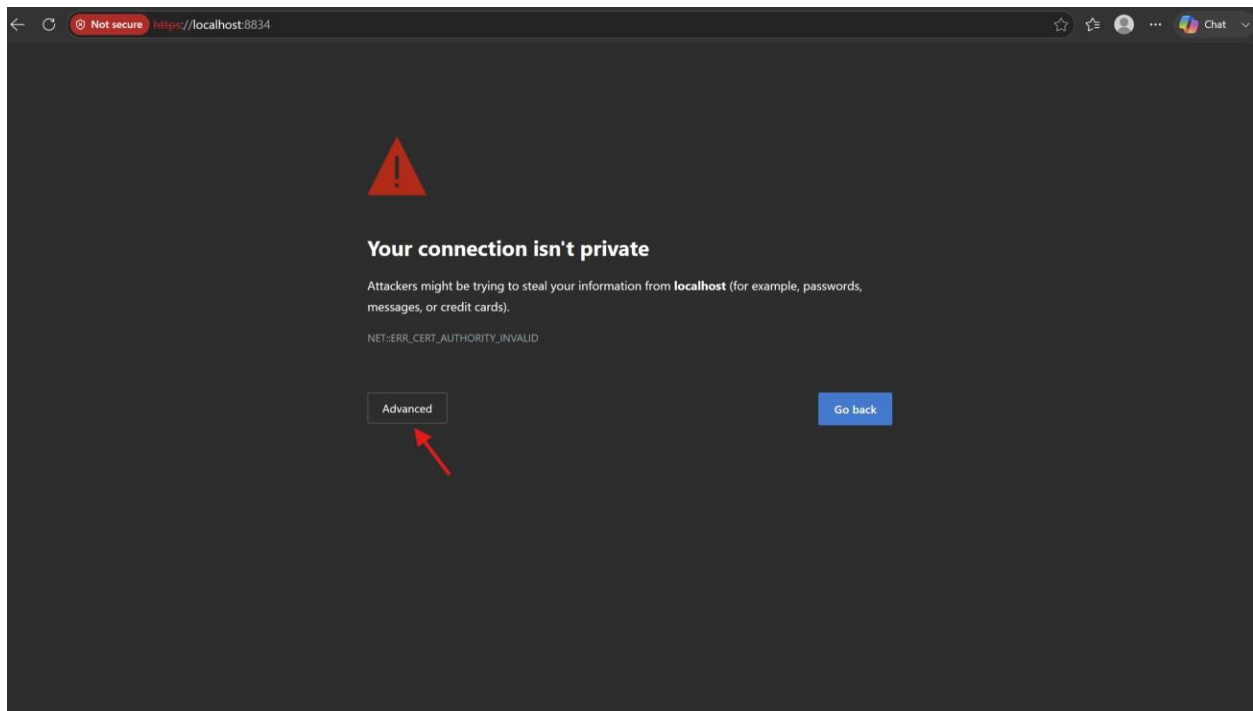
When the Nessus Welcome page opens, click **Connect via SSL** to establish a secure connection with the Nessus web interface.



Step 11: Browser Security Warning

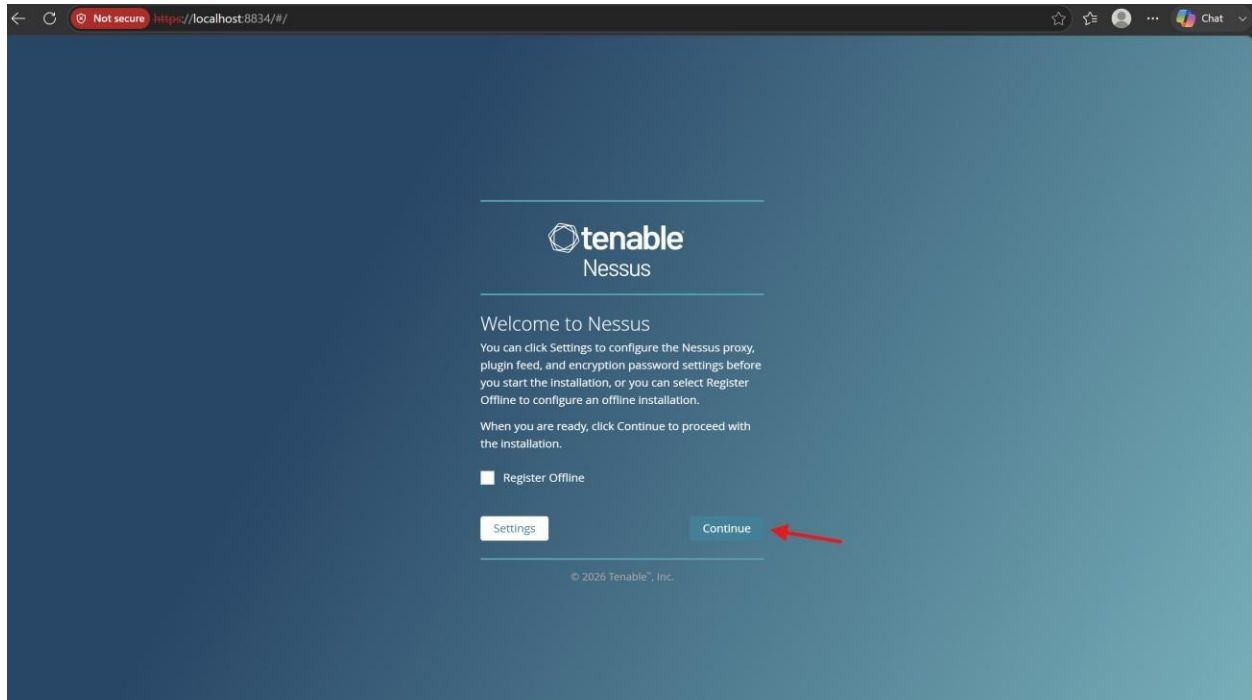
A browser security warning may appear because Nessus uses a self-signed SSL certificate during the initial setup. Click **Advanced** to continue. Then, Select **Proceed to localhost (unsafe)** to continue to the Nessus setup page.

Note: This warning is expected because the certificate is self-signed and the connection is being made to the local computer.



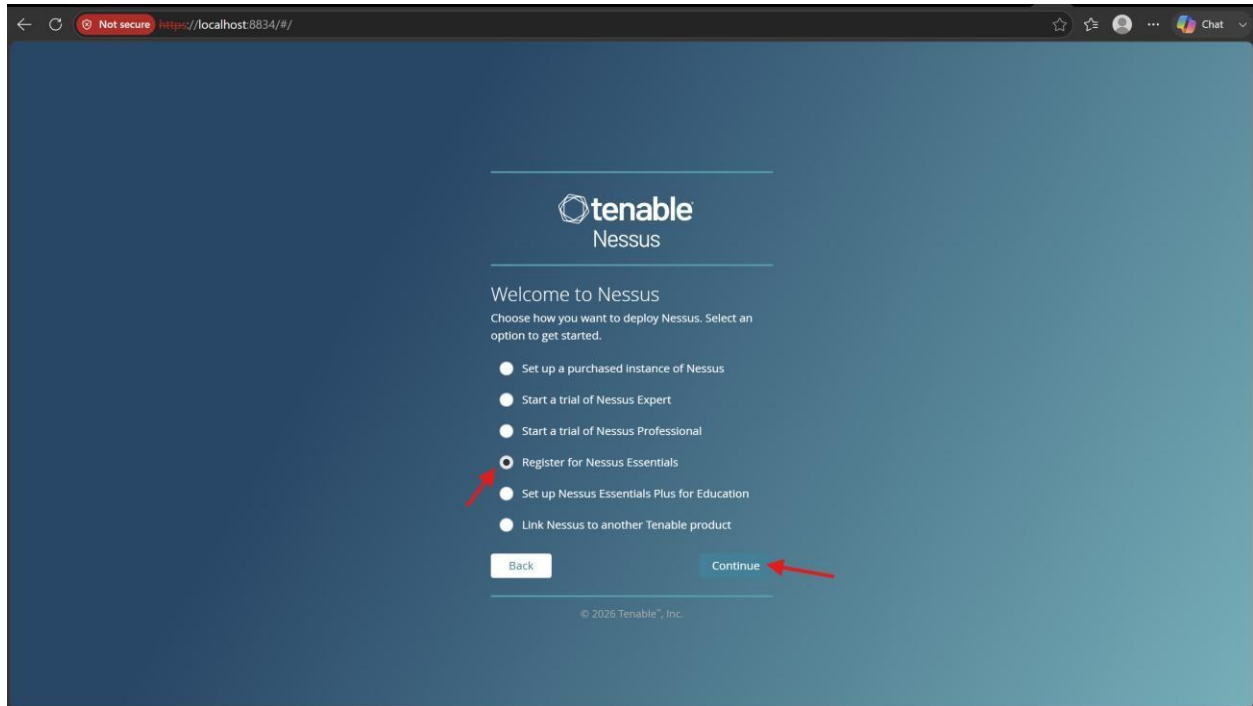
Step 12: Welcome to Nessus

The **Welcome to Nessus** page is displayed. Leave the default settings unchanged and click **Continue**.



Step 13: Select the Deployment Option

On the **Choose How to Deploy Nessus** page, select Register for Nessus **Essentials**, which is the free edition intended for students and personal use. Click **Continue**.



Step 14: Register Nessus Essentials

To **Get an Activation Code**, first register for Nessus Essentials using your college email or personal email. An activation code is required to activate the product and download the latest plugins.

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Nessus

Get an activation code

To register for a free Nessus Essentials activation code, enter your information.

First Name Last Name

First Name Last Name

Email

[Redacted]@islingtoncollege.edu.np

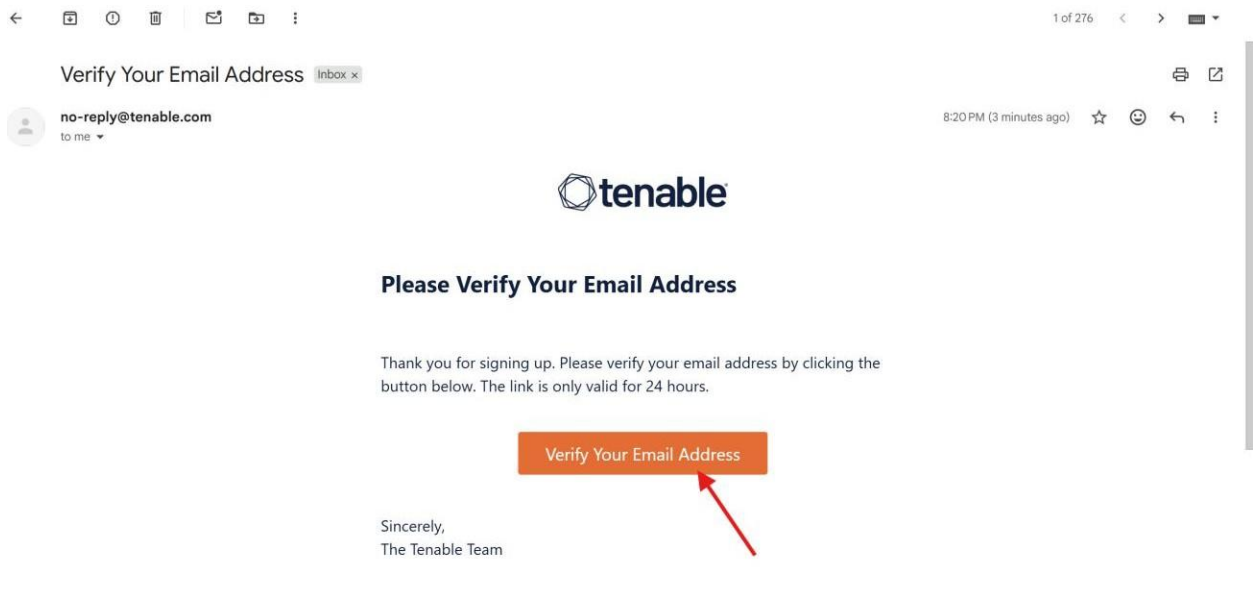
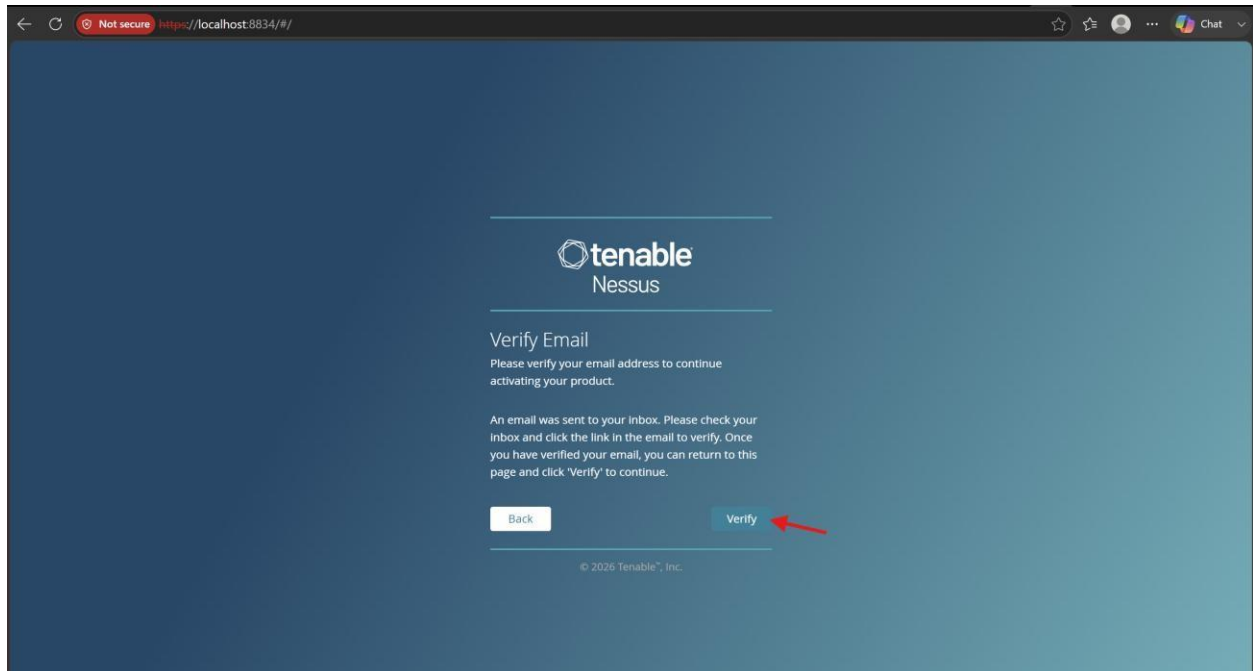
Already have activation code? Skip this step to enter it manually.

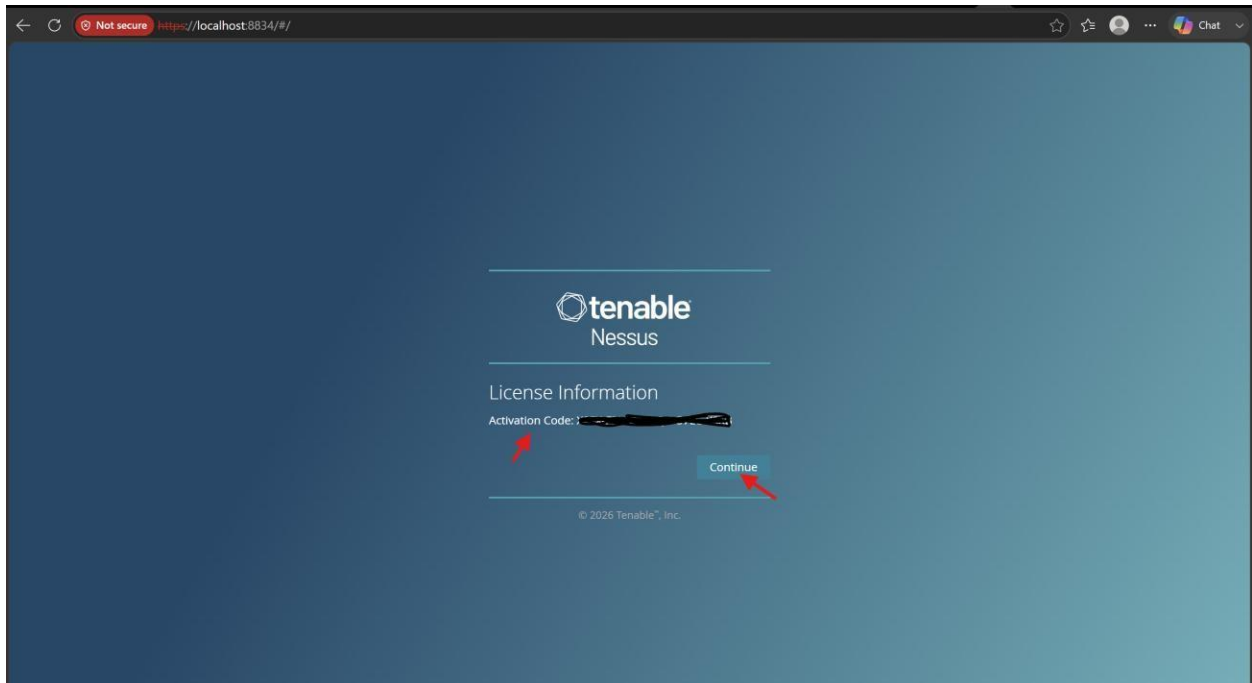
Back Skip Register

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Step 15: Verify email and Enter the Activation Code

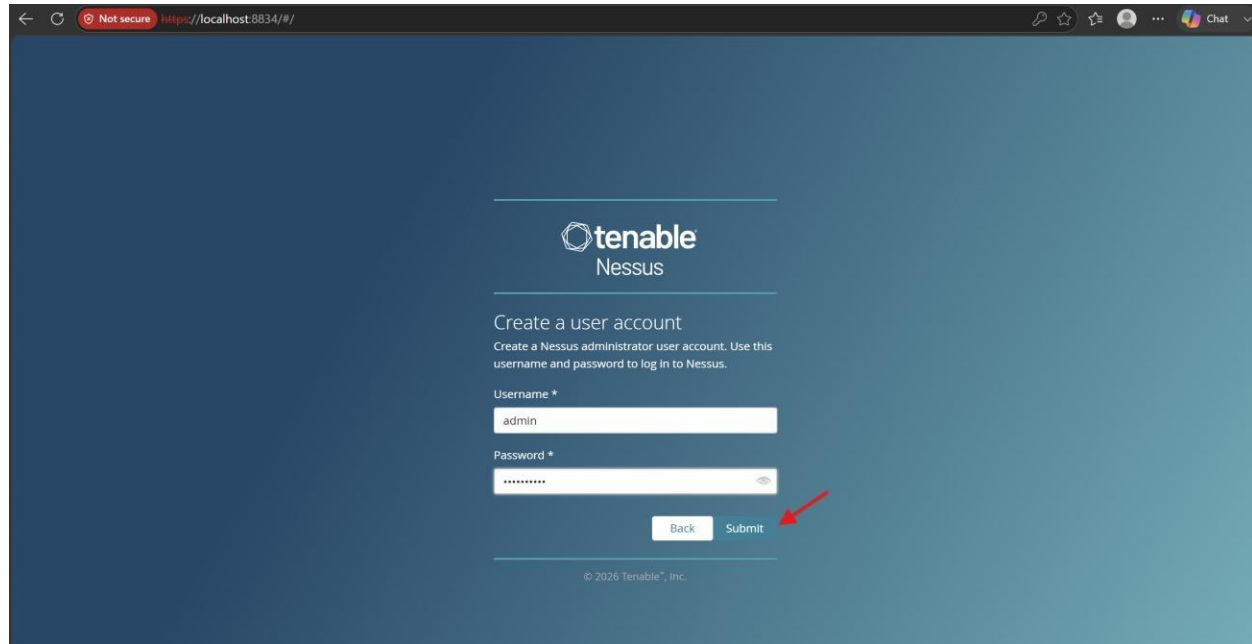
Enter the activation code received from Tenable in your Gmail and click **Continue**.





Step 16: Create an Administrator Account

Create an administrator's username and password. These credentials will be used to access the Nessus dashboard after installation.



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `https://localhost:8834/#/`. The page features the Tenable Nessus logo and a form titled "Create a user account". Below the title, a subtitle reads: "Create a Nessus administrator user account. Use this username and password to log in to Nessus." The form contains two input fields: "Username *" with the value "admin" and "Password *" with masked characters. At the bottom of the form are "Back" and "Submit" buttons. A red arrow points to the "Submit" button. The footer of the page displays "© 2026 Tenable®, Inc."

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Nessus

Create a user account
Create a Nessus administrator user account. Use this username and password to log in to Nessus.

Username *

admin

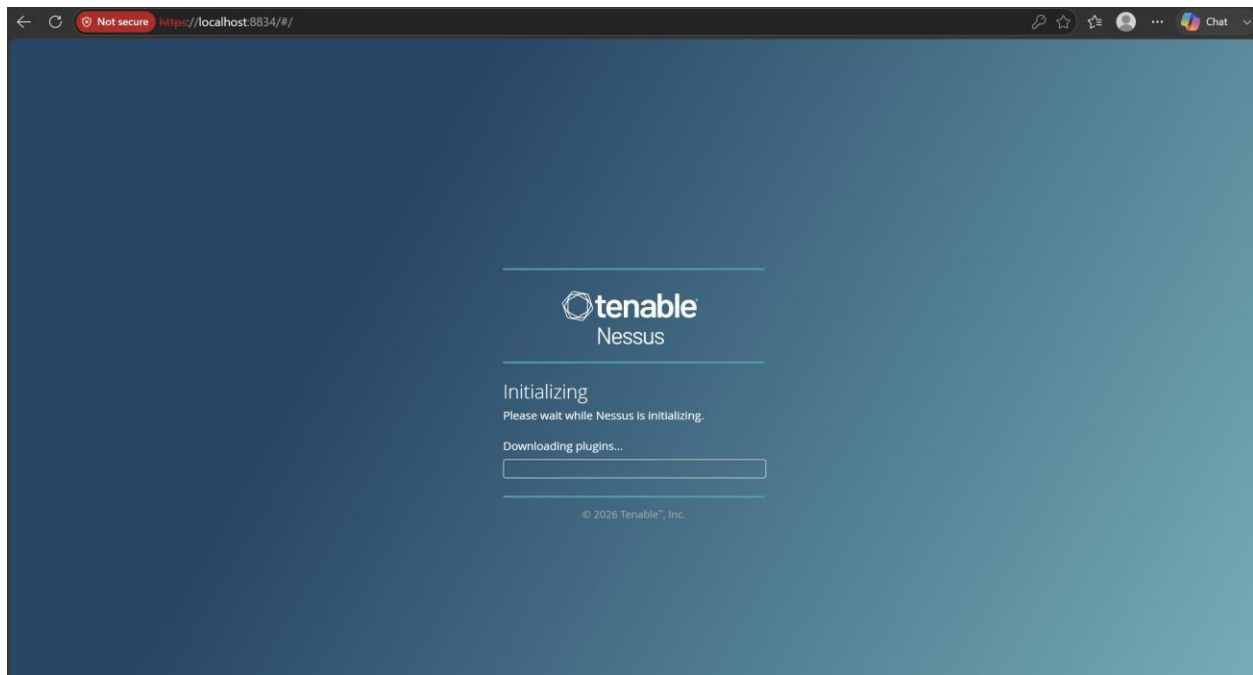
Password *

Back Submit

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Step 17: Download Plugins and Complete the Initial Setup

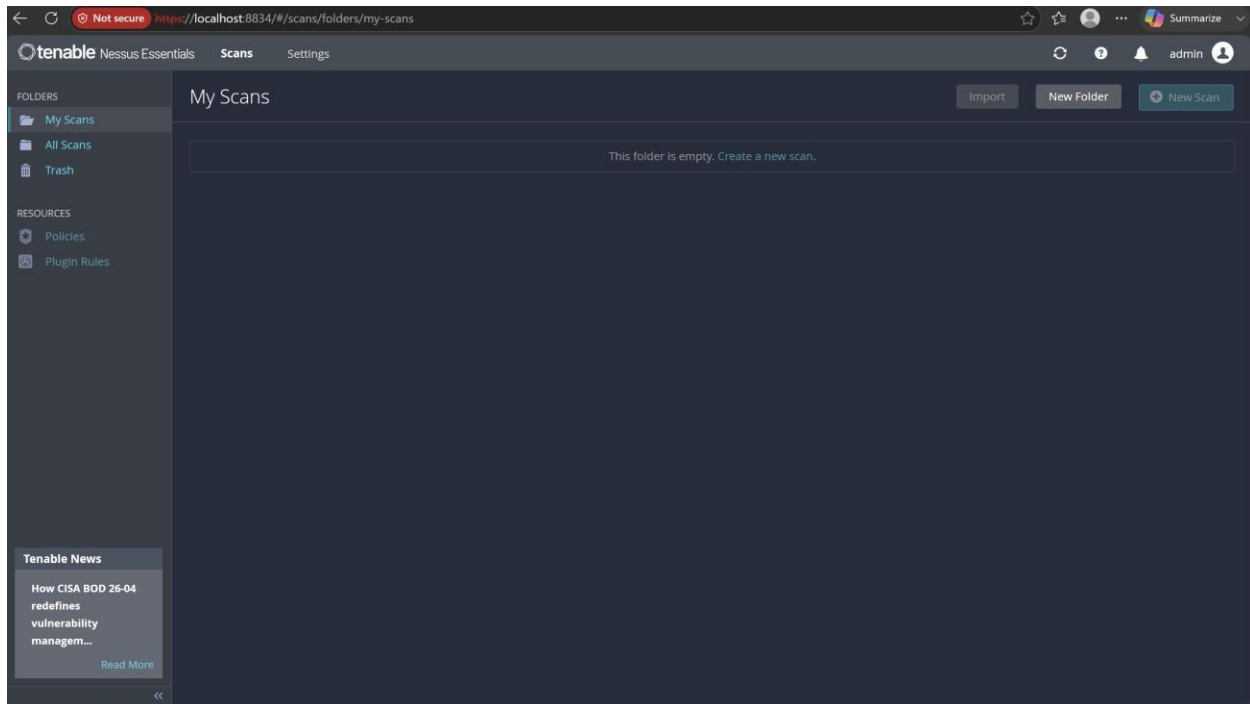
Nessus begins downloading and installing the latest vulnerability plugins. This process may take several minutes depending on the speed of the internet connection. Wait for the initialization process to finish. Nessus automatically configures the required services and prepares the application for use.



4. Verifying the Installation

Step 18: Verify the Nessus Dashboard

After successful authentication, the **Nessus Dashboard** is displayed. The presence of the **My Scans** folder and the **New Scan** option confirms that the installation and configuration have been completed successfully.



5. Troubleshooting

Issue	Possible Cause	Recommended Solution
Unable to access the Nessus web interface (https://localhost:8834)	The Nessus service has not started or is not running.	Wait a few minutes and refresh the browser. If the issue persists, restart the Tenable Nessus service from Windows Services .
Browser displays "Your connection isn't private"	Nessus uses a self-signed SSL certificate during the initial setup.	Click Advanced , then select Proceed to localhost (unsafe) to continue.
Activation email not received using college mail	Email is delayed, filtered as spam, or blocked by the mail server.	Check the Spam/Junk folder, wait a few minutes, or register using a personal email address (e.g., Gmail or Outlook).
Invalid or expired activation code	The activation code is incorrect or has expired.	Verify the activation code or request a new activation code from the Tenable registration page.
Plugin download is slow or fails	Slow or unstable internet connection.	Ensure a stable internet connection and wait for the plugin download to be completed successfully.
Unable to log in to Nessus	Incorrect administrator username or password.	Verify the credentials created during the setup process and try again.
Installation fails or does not complete	Insufficient user privileges or the installation was interrupted.	Run the installer as Administrator and restart the installation.